

REMARKS

I. STATUS OF CLAIMS

Claims 3-8, 11, 12 and 15-18 are withdrawn from consideration.

Claims 1, 2, 9, 10, 13 and 14 are rejected.

Claims 1, 9, 10 and 13 are amended herein. No new matter has been added. Support for the amendments would be found in, for example, page 6, paragraph [0023] of the specification of the present application.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1, 2, 9, 10, 13 and 14 are currently pending in this application.

II. REJECTION OF CLAIMS 1, 2, 9, 10, 13 AND 14 UNDER 35 U.S.C § 102(a) AS BEING ANTICIPATED BY APPLICANT'S ADMITTED PRIOR ART (AAPA)

Claims 1, 9, 10 and 13 as amended specifically recite, amongst other novel features, how a **"magnet is displaced** a predetermined distance from a center line of the blade **to an asymmetric position** such that the electromagnetic force acts on the blade asymmetrically". (Emphasis added). Applicant's admitted prior art (hereinafter: AAPA) fails to disclose, teach or suggest these features.

Instead, AAPA merely discloses a magnet 10 and a yoke 9 to generate an electromagnetic force induced by the current flowing through the focusing and tracking coils 3 and 4 to drive the blade 2. See, for example, FIGS. 1-3, and page 1, paragraph [0004] of the specification of this present application. Further, AAPA discloses that in the optical pickup having the structure described above, as current flows through the focusing coil 3, the blade 2, supported by the elastic support 6, is driven in the focus direction A by the electromagnetic force generated by current and a magnetic force from the magnet 10 and the yoke 9. See, for example, FIGS. 1-3, and pages 1-2, paragraph [0005] of the specification of this present application.

However, it is respectfully submitted that AAPA fails to disclose, teach or suggest how a **"magnet is displaced** a predetermined distance from a center line of the blade **to an asymmetric position** such that the electromagnetic force acts on the blade asymmetrically", as specifically recited by Applicant in, for example, claims 1, 9, 10 and 13. Instead, AAPA merely teaches how a magnet 10 and a yoke 9 would generate an electromagnetic force. The feature of how a **"magnet is displaced ... to an asymmetric position** such that the electromagnetic

force acts on the blade asymmetrically" is absent in AAPA. Further understanding and appreciation for Applicant's claimed invention as recited in claims 1, 9, 10 and 13 would be found in, for example, page 6, paragraph [0023] of the specification of the present application.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection is overcome.

Although the above comments are specifically directed to claims 1, 9, 10 and 13, it is respectfully submitted that the comments would be helpful in understanding differences in claims 2 and 14 over AAPA.

III. CONCLUSION

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

Date: _____

By: _____
Uchendu O. Anyaso
Registration No. 51,411

1201 New York Avenue, NW, Suite 700
Washington, D.C. 20005
Telephone: (202) 434-1500
Facsimile: (202) 434-1501

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS:

The attached drawing(s) include changes to FIGS. 4 and 5. The sheets containing FIGS. 4 and 5 replaces the original sheet including FIGS. 4 and 5. For the convenience of the Examiner, an annotated sheet showing the changes made is attached. Approval of these changes to the Drawings is respectfully requested. In the Office Action at item 2, the Examiner objected to the drawings. In order to overcome these objections, replacement figures are submitted herewith. In FIGS. 4 and 5, the words "PRIOR ART" were inserted. Approval of these changes to the Drawings is respectfully requested.



FIG. 3 (PRIOR ART)

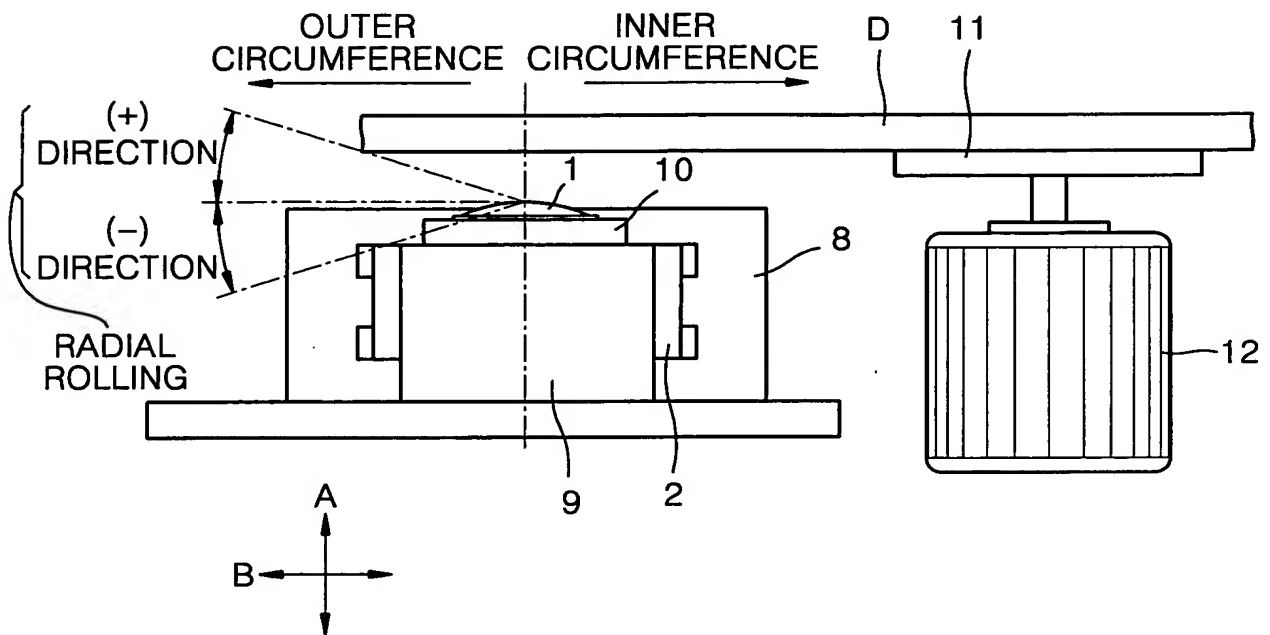


FIG. 4 (PRIOR ART)

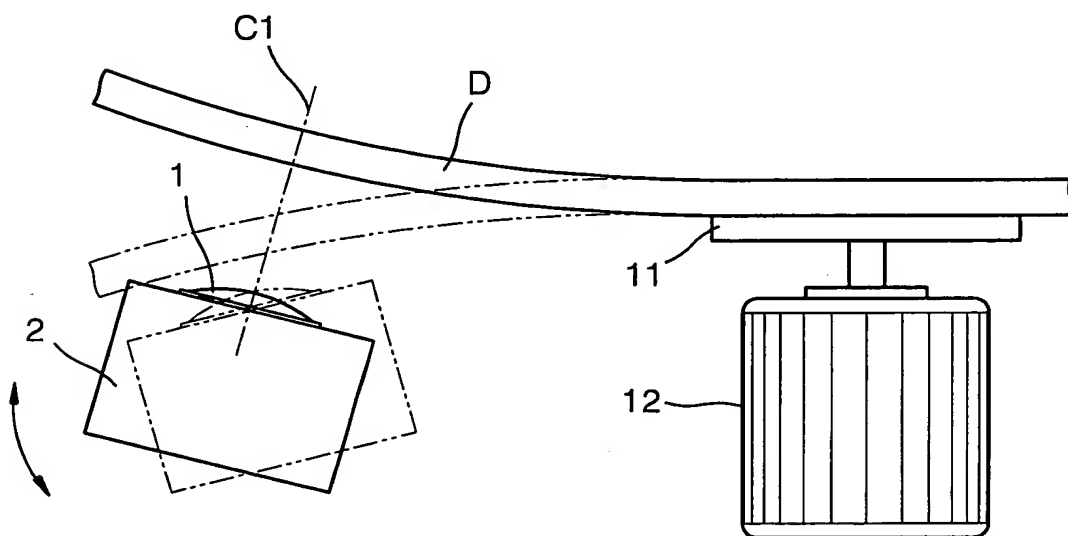


FIG. 5 (PRIOR ART)

